

FAMILY COAT-OF-ARMS

Life of HEBER C. KIMBALL

AN APOSTLE

The Father and Founder of the British Mission



By
Orson F. Whitney



It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after our own; but the great man is he who, in the midst of the crowd, keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of his character.—EMERSON.



BOOKCRAFT
Salt Lake City, Utah

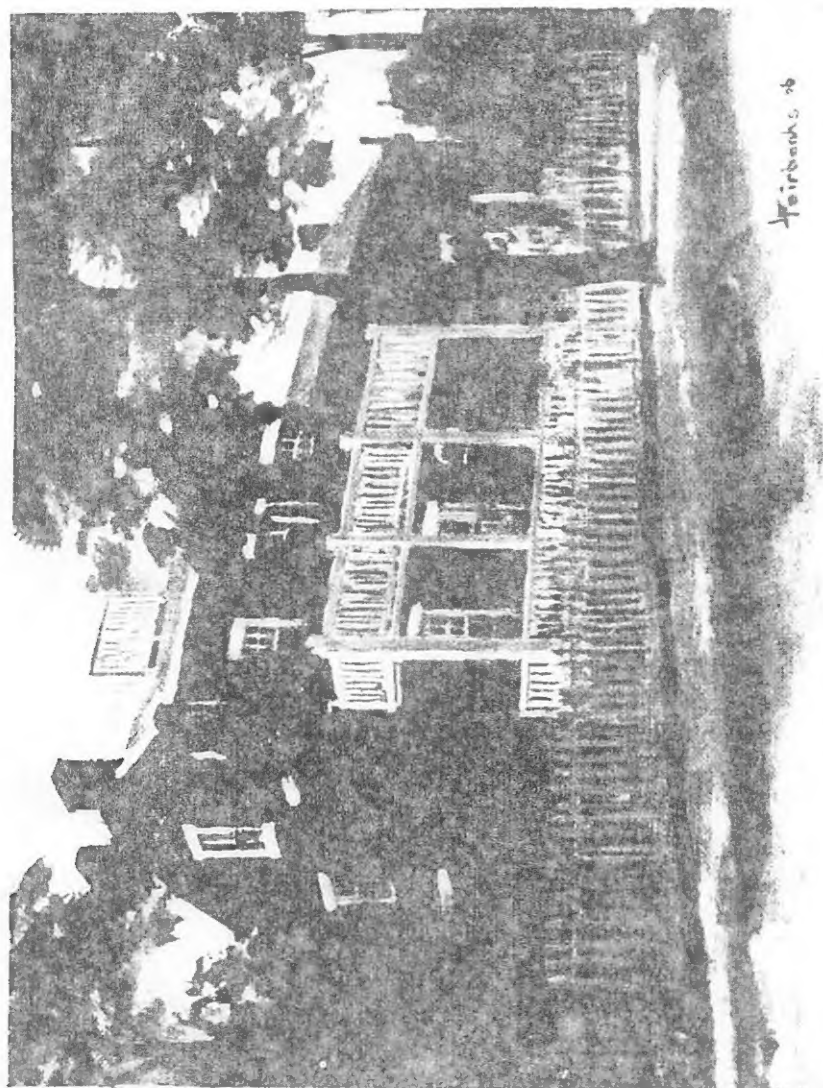


HEBER C. KIMBALL

doctrines opposed to the principles of truth. "When called upon, he stated that he had had many visions and revelations, and that the Lord had revealed to him a certainty that He would make His second appearance within fifteen years; also that the Spirit of God often came upon him and threw him down, and caused him to disfigure himself, or die the death of the righteous, or of the wicked, and then come to life again in the presence of others, to convince them that he was a man of God and had great power. He also stated that in one of his visions the Lord Jesus appeared personally and laid His hands upon him and sanctified him, both soul and body, and that he was now immortal or changed, so that he would never die. He stated that he could hold red-hot iron or live coals of fire in his hands without receiving any injury; together with other curious notions and vagaries, ascribing them all to the power of God; and that he never would deny them, although the Council and whole Church should decide against him. The Council endeavored to show him that he was deceived by the adversary, but to no effect. He said he would rather be expelled from the Church than give up any of his views or say they were not of God. Consequently the Church lifted their hands against him."

While at Sackett's Harbor, Heber received a letter from his wife, apprising him of the birth of his son, Heber P., at Kirtland, on the 1st of June. His joy found vent in a characteristic burst of humor. He propounded the following riddle to the brethren: "I have three children now, and have not seen one of them." This was quite a puzzle to them, until he explained that the *one* he referred to was the infant born since he left home.

He next visited his native state, Vermont, and remained several days among the scenes of his childhood,



Heirbans 26

The Naxos Home of Heber C. Kimball

THE NAXOS HOME OF HEBER C. KIMBALL



VILATE KIMBALL

A startling innovation, a test designed to try, as never before, the faith and integrity of God's people now came upon them. Not in the shape of fire and sword, nor toilsome pilgrimage, nor pestilence, nor wealth, nor poverty. Ah! no; something far different from these, and far more difficult to bear.

A grand and glorious principle had been revealed, and for years had slumbered in the breast of God's Prophet, awaiting the time when, with safety to himself and the Church, it might be confided to the sacred keeping of a chosen few. That time had now come. An angel with a flaming sword descended from the courts of glory and, confronting the Prophet, commanded him in the name of the Lord to establish the principle so long concealed from the knowledge of the Saints and of the world—that of plural marriage.¹

Well knew the youthful Prophet the danger of his task. Well knew he the peril and penalty of disobedience. Fearing God, not man, he bowed to the inevitable, and laid his life—aye, was it not so?—upon the altar of duty and devotion.

¹The principle of sealing man and wife for time and for eternity is known as the law of celestial marriage.

The practice of plural marriage referred to above was discontinued by the divinely inspired Manifesto, issued by President Wilford Woodruff on September 24, 1890 and approved by the general conference of the Church assembled in the tabernacle October 6, 1890.

savage hearts God had wondrously softened into sympathy and friendship for His exiled people, the Camp of Israel, the residue of twenty thousand souls, which the Saints had numbered in Illinois, passed the winter of 1846.

Meanwhile, in September of that year, the remnant left in Nauvoo, between six and seven hundred souls, after a gallant defense of their city against the mob, which, in violation of every treaty, came upon them in overwhelming numbers, were driven from their homes at the point of the bayonet, and thrown, men, women and children, sick, dying and shelterless, upon the western shores of the Mississippi. And this — shades of the patriots! — while their brethren, the heroes of the Mormon Battalion, were marching to fight their country's battles on the plains of Mexico!

The "Word and Will of the Lord concerning the Camp of Israel in their journeyings to the West," was given through President Brigham Young at Winter Quarters on the 14th of January, 1847. It was the first written revelation sent out to the Church since the death of the Prophet Joseph. Agreeable to its instructions, the Saints began to prepare for their journey to the mountains.

Early in April the pioneers started from Winter Quarters. This famous band numbered one hundred and forty-eight souls, including three women and two children. The *personnel* of the company as it left the Missouri River, was as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Brigham Young | 15 Thomas Grover |
| 2 Heber C. Kimball | 16 Barnabas L. Adams |
| 3 Orson Pratt | 17 Roswell Stevens |
| 4 Wilford Woodruff | 18 Starling Driggs |
| 5 George A. Smith | 19 Albert Carrington |
| 6 Willard Richards | 20 Thomas Bullock |
| 7 Amasa Lyman | 21 George Brown |
| 8 Ezra T. Benson | 22 Jesse C. Little |
| 9 John S. Fowler | 23 Phineas H. Young |
| 10 Jacob D. Burnham | 24 John Y. Greene |
| 11 Joseph Egbert | 25 Thomas Tanner |
| 12 John M. Freeman | 26 Addison Everett |
| 13 Marcus B. Thorpe | 27 Truman O. Angell |
| 14 George Wardel | 28 Lorenzo D. Young |

| | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----|------------------------|
| 29 | Briant Stringham | 77 | Stephen Kelsey |
| 30 | Albert P. Rockwood | 78 | John S. Eldredge |
| 31 | Joseph S. Schofield | 79 | Charles D. Barnham |
| 32 | Luke Johnson | 80 | Almon L. Williams |
| 33 | John G. Holman | 81 | Rufus Allen |
| 34 | Edmund Ellsworth | 82 | Robert T. Thomas |
| 35 | Sidney Alvarus Hanks | 83 | James W. Stewart |
| 36 | George R. Grant | 84 | Elijah Newman |
| 37 | Millen Atwood | 85 | Levi N. Kendall |
| 38 | Samuel Fox | 86 | Francis Boggs |
| 39 | Tunis Reppelyee | 87 | David Grant |
| 40 | Eli Harvey Pierce | 88 | Howard Egan |
| 41 | William Dykes | 89 | William A. King |
| 42 | Jacob Weiler | 90 | Thomas P. Cloward |
| 43 | Stephen H. Goddard | 91 | Hosea Cushing |
| 44 | Tarlton Lewis | 92 | Robert Byard |
| 45 | Henry G. Sherwood | 93 | George P. Billings |
| 46 | Zebedee Coltrin | 94 | Edson Whipple |
| 47 | Sylvester H. Earl | 95 | Philo Johnson |
| 48 | John Dixon | 96 | Carlos Murray |
| 49 | Samuel H. Marble | 97 | Appleton M. Harmon |
| 50 | George Scholes | 98 | William Clayton |
| 51 | William Henrie | 99 | Horace K. Whitney |
| 52 | William A. Empey | 100 | Orson K. Whitney |
| 53 | Charles Shumway | 101 | Orrin Porter Rockwell |
| 54 | Andrew P. Shumway | 102 | Nathaniel Thomas Brown |
| 55 | Thomas Woolsey | 103 | Jackson Reddin |
| 56 | Chancy Loveland | 104 | John Pack |
| 57 | Erastus Snow | 105 | Francis M. Pomeroy |
| 58 | James Craig | 106 | Aaron Farr |
| 59 | William Wordsworth | 107 | Nathaniel Fairbanks |
| 60 | William P. Vance | 108 | John S. Higbee |
| 61 | Simeon Heyd | 109 | John Wheeler |
| 62 | Seely Owen | 110 | Solomon Chamberlin |
| 63 | James Case | 111 | Conrad Klineman |
| 64 | Artemas Johnson | 112 | Joseph Rooker |
| 65 | William C. A. Smoot | 113 | Perry Fitzgerald |
| 66 | Benjamin Franklin Dewey | 114 | John H. Tippetts |
| 67 | William Carter | 115 | James Davenport |
| 68 | John G. Losee | 116 | Henson Walker |
| 69 | Burr Frost | 117 | Benjamin W. Rolfe |
| 70 | Datus Ensign | 118 | Norton Jacobs |
| 71 | Benjamin Franklin Stewart | 119 | Charles A. Harper |
| 72 | Horace Monroe Frink | 120 | George Woodard |
| 73 | Eric Glines | 121 | Stephen Markham |
| 74 | Ozro Eastman | 122 | Lewis Barney |
| 75 | Seth Taft | 123 | George Mills |
| 76 | Horace M. Thornton | 124 | Andrew S. Gibbons |

| | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-----|------------------------|
| 125 | Joseph Hancock | 135 | Oscar Crosby (colored) |
| 126 | John W. Norton | 136 | Joseph Matthews |
| 127 | Shadrach Roundy | 137 | Gilburd Summe |
| 128 | Hans C. Hanson | 138 | John Gleason |
| 129 | Levi Jackman | 139 | Charles Burke |
| 130 | Lyman Curtis | 140 | Alexander P. Chessley |
| 131 | John Brown | 141 | Rodney Badger |
| 132 | Matthew Ivory | 142 | Norman Taylor |
| 133 | David Powell | 143 | Green Flake (colored) |
| 134 | Hark Lark (colored) | | |

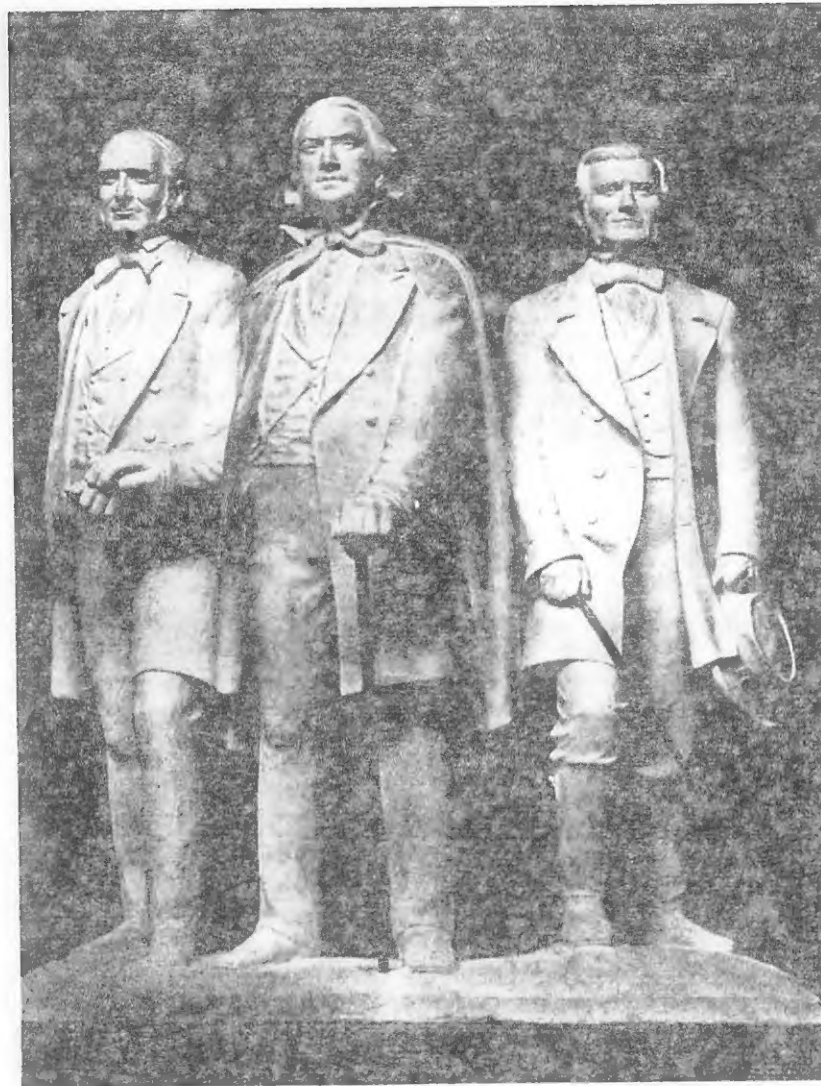
The above names, with the exception of the first eight (the Apostles) are given in their order, as divided into companies of tens.

The three women who accompanied the pioneers were Ellen Sanders, one of the wives of Heber C. Kimball; Clara Decker, a wife of Brigham Young; and Harriet P. Young, her mother, wife of Lorenzo D. Young. The children were Sobieski Young, son of Lorenzo, and Perry Decker, own brother to Clara Decker Young.

President Brigham Young was the leader of the company, which, as seen, numbered among its members seven others of the Twelve. Apostles Parley P. Pratt, Orson Hyde and John Taylor were absent on missions.

The object of the pioneers, as shown, was to explore the region of the Great Salt Lake, and if possible find a home for the Saints in the midst of the Rocky Mountains. A few leaves from Heber's pioneer journal will now be interesting. He writes:

"On the 5th day of April, 1847, I started with six of my teams and went out about four miles, where I formed an encampment with several others of my division. The same day I returned home and remained in Winter Quarters during the conference on the 6th. On the 7th and 8th I was still making preparations for my journey, and called my family together and spent some time in giving

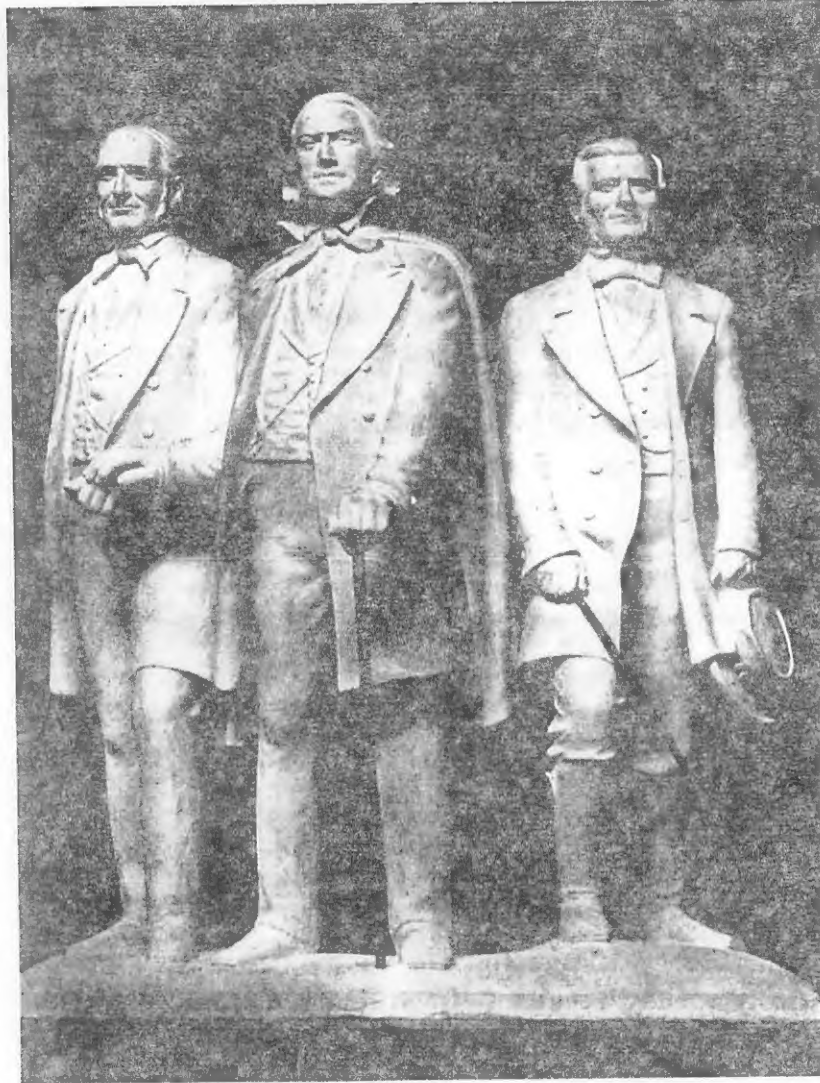


Heber C. Kimball, Brigham Young and Wilford Woodruff (left to right) atop the "This Is the Place" Monument at the mouth of Emigration Canyon.

Heber and Brigham entered the Valley together, on the ever memorable "Twenty-fourth," the day chosen by the Pioneers to celebrate their advent into the chambers of the mountains. As a matter of fact, however, Apostle Orson Pratt with Elder Erastus Snow and others, sent on from Bear River ahead of the main company to break a road over the mountains and through the canyons, had penetrated to and partly explored the Valley three days before. Heber remained behind with the President, who was ill, having contracted mountain fever.

Arriving at the camp of Elder Pratt, they found that the brethren had pitched their tents beside two small streams of pure water, and were already engaged in ploughing and putting in crops. A shower of rain fell that afternoon.

The next day being the Sabbath, the usual services were held and the sacrament administered to the congregation. The speakers of the day were George A. Smith, Heber C. Kimball, Ezra T. Benson, Wilford Woodruff, Orson Pratt and Willard Richards. The main theme of the discourses, naturally enough, was the "land of promise" in the "mountains of Israel," unto which

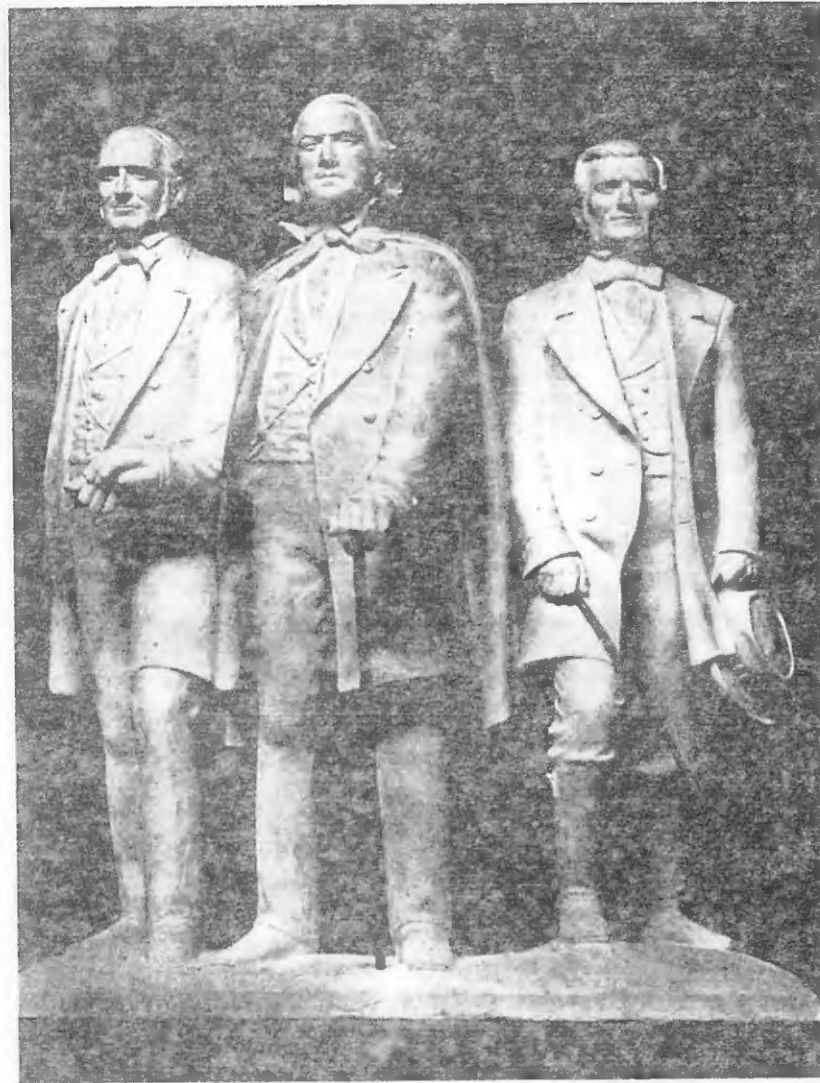


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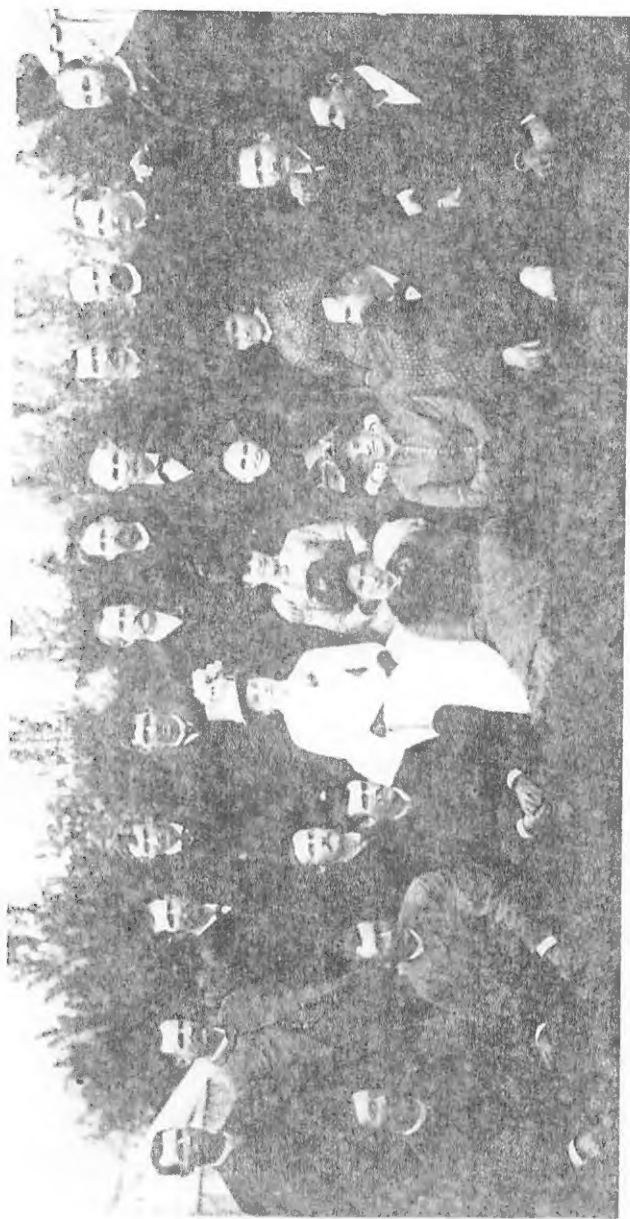


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TWENTY-FIVE OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF HEBER C. KIMBALL

Picture taken at Fuller's Hill Gardens, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 14, 1887.

Standing, left to right: Horace Heber, Albert Heber, Moroni Heber, Lorenzo Heber, Joshua Heber, Elias Smith, Jonathan Golden, William Henry, Samuel Heber, Joseph, Nazel Whitney, Hyrum Heber, Middle row: Andrew, Abbie Sarah Burroughs, Alice Ann Smith, Helen Mar Whitney, Sarah Marian Jenkins, John Heber (Don), Lower row: Daniel Heber, Eugene, Willford Alfonso, Mary Margaret Moffat, Mary Melvina Driggs, Solomon Farham, David Heber.



Home of Heber C. Kimball on North Main Street, Salt Lake City

—Elder George Q. Cannon.



HEBER C. KIMBALL
From a photo taken in 1867.

"Councilor Burton, on behalf of the committee, presented the following preamble and resolution, which were read and unanimously adopted:

"*Whereas*, It has pleased the Almighty, in the dispensations of His Providence, to remove from our midst by the hand of death our esteemed fellow citizen and much beloved President, Heber C. Kimball, who, with unwavering integrity and untiring zeal, has ever been a faithful laborer in the cause of truth and an earnest advocate of civil and religious liberty, and of every principle calculated to ennoble and elevate humanity; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That while we recognize the hand of the Lord in all things, we deeply feel the loss which the community has sustained in his death, and in common with the citizens of this city and Territory, and the Latter-day Saints throughout the world, we most sincerely sympathize with his family and friends in this their sad bereavement.

"The Council adjourned without the transaction of further business.

"DANIEL H. WELLS, Mayor.

"ROBERT CAMPBELL, Recorder.

"Council Chamber,

June 23rd, 1868."

A full account of the funeral of President Kimball is reserved for the next and final chapter.